REMARKS

The claims and drawings have been amended to improve the style of this application. The claims have also been amended in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter.

In particular new independent claim 19 has been added which contains the features of claim 1, and the features of the pressing element from claim 3. Applicant has reviewed the prior art, and does not find the prior art to have the pressing element as set forth in claim 3. It is Applicant's feeling that it is the feature of the pressing element which causes claim 3 to define over the prior art, and therefore new independent claim 19 should also define over the prior art.

The rejection also questions the telescope and the adaptors, and how they are "shutter-like" or how they are "accordion-like". With this Amendment Applicant is submitting Sketches A, B and C which show one of the preferred shutter-like and accordion-like telescoping adapters. Sketch A, and Sketch B show an accordion or lover-like expansion of the pressing strips and cutting strips. The pressing cutting strips have bodies 21, 17 of a corresponding length and which are articulated to one another via the bars 21b, 17b in the attached sketches. Wire cables 21c, 17c hold all the respective parts together and under tension. The bars 21b and 17b are displaceable in the guides 21a and 17a in grooves 21d, 17d. As one can see, the cutting units with the knife 10, the cutting strip15 and the pressing strip 19 are displaceable during adjustments in the direction V. The guides 21a, 17a remain stationary and the roller shutters 21, 17 are displaced within the bars 21b, 17b in the grooves 21d, 17d. This is but one design of an accordion or louver-like design of the cutting strips and pressing strips, other designs are

conceivable as well.

With regard to the shutter-like design, it is possible for the pressing strips and cutting strips to have a plurality of plates which slide over each other. When the pressing strips and cutting strips are to be at their smallest size, the strips are stacked directly on top of each other. When the strips are to form a large surface area, the strips are spread out so that they are substantially in the same plane with a minimal, or no overlapping of the strips.

Claims 2 and 4 have been rejected as begin indefinite with regard to the phrase "the cutting units having a flow of forces that is closed in itself". Applicant has amended claim 2, and added new independent claim 20 to further set forth this feature. In particular these claims have been amended to set forth the unit frame which is shown in the embodiment of the drawings by reference 8. This frame connects the cutting strips and the knives 10. In particular the unit frame is designed so that the force applied by the cutting knife against the cutting strip during the actual cutting is absorbed by the unit frame. By having such a unit frame, all of the forces that are generated by the cutting are substantially contained within the respective cutting unit. This is beneficial, because the common support frame then can be designed so that it only needs to support the weight of the cutting units, and not the force of the actual cutting. This greatly reduces the cost of the common support frame. Another benefit, is that the entire cutting unit can then be movably mounted on the common support frame as a single unit. The knife and the cutting strip therefore are always in alignment and do not need to be separately adjusted. This reduces the set-up time when a new book or pamphlet is to be trimmed.

Claims 1, 2 and 8 have been rejected as being anticipated by Sarring.

As described above, claim 20 sets forth that each of the cutting units include a cutting strip and a knife, and a unit frame connecting the cutting strip and knife. The unit frame is set forth as substantially absorbing all of the forces between the knife and the cutting strip during a oblique swing cut. Claim 20 further sets forth that each cutting unit is movably mounted as a unit on the common support frame. Applicant has reviewed Sarring, and finds no teaching nor suggestion of a frame in each cutting unit which absorbs all of the forces between a knife and a cutting strip during a swing cut, and especially where each cutting unit is movably mounted as a unit on a common support frame. Instead it appears that any cutting units in Sarring are all interrelated to each other through structure which absorbs the forces from all of the cutting units. In particular there appears to be no single frame in Sarring for each cutting unit which absorbs all the forces between a knife and a cutting strip. Instead it appears in Sarring that the overall structure in Sarring absorbs all of the forces of any cutting units. This makes for a apparatus which is much more complicated and where the overall structure needs to be very strong. Furthermore, it is more difficult to adjust a cutting unit for different size books or pamphlets since the individual structures in Sarring are more interrelated. It is Applicant's position that Sarring does not describe the frame set forth in claim 20, and therefore Sarring cannot anticipate claim 20.

Amended claim 2 also sets forth a unit frame substantially absorbing all of the flow of forces from the squeezing cut which is performed by the knives against the cutting strips. Since Sarring does not teach nor suggest each cutting unit having a frame that substantially absorbs these forces, Sarring also does not anticipate claim 2.

Claim 20 further defines over Sarring, by setting forth that the cutting units with this unit frame are each movably mounted as a unit on a common support frame. Applicant finds no teaching nor suggestion in Sarring of any structure connecting a knife and a cutting strip which is movable as a unit with a cutting unit on a support frame. Claim 20 therefore further defines over Sarring.

Claim 1 has been amended to further set forth the relationship between the knives and the cutting strips. In particular claim 1 sets forth that the knives and cutting strips are related to perform an oblique swing squeezing cut against the cutting strips. Applicant has reviewed Sarring, and does not find Sarring to teach nor suggest any structure where a knife and a cutting strip perform a squeezing cut. Instead as shown in Fig. 5, It appears that elements 974 and 978 performed a shearing cut. Applicant notes that in the squeezing cut of the present invention, the knives 10 squeeze the material against the cutting strip 14. This produces a much higher quality cut, for even thick materials such as books. Applicant notes that a shearing type cut such as in Sarring, is a lower quality cut which is used in lower quality products such as newspapers. Since Sarring does not teach nor suggest structure in a cutting unit for operating a knife against a cutting strip to perform a squeezing cut, Sarring cannot anticipate all of the features of amended claim 1. Claim 1 therefore cannot be anticipate by Sarring.

Applicant has amended the drawings to remove the indicia "3~". Applicant notes that this was originally present in the drawings to indicate that the motors were preferably 3 phase AC motors. This indicia has been removed in order to avoid confusion.

Applicant notes that the combination of a squeezing cut with a frame that absorbs all

of the forces is beneficial, especially with regard to overall set-up time. In the present invention the knife always cuts on the same position of the cutting strip. This avoids elastic deformations that develop when all of the cutting units are interrelated through the overall structure. These elastic deformations, and fine corrections of the knife position in prior art devices lead to the inevitable replacement of cutting strips, since incisions in the cutting strips will be spaced close to one another. In the present invention, the frame avoids the elastic deformations present in the prior art, and allows the knife to always cut in the same position of the cutting strip. The need to replace cutting strips is therefore eliminated because there are no imprints of old incisions in the cutting strip.

Applicant again thanks the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which would further favorable prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative by telephone to discuss possible changes.

At this time Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, and based on the above amendments and remarks, respectfully solicits allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By: _____

Theobald Dengler
Registration No. 34,575
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

TD:tf

70418.10

Enclosed: (2) Replacement Sheets of Drawings
(2) Annotated Sheets of Drawings
Sketch A, B and C

DATED: December 8, 2003
SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827
(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, NO.: EV323629818US

McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.
SCARBOROUGH STATION, SCARBOROUGH, NY 10510-0827

BY: _____ DATE: December 8, 2003

ANNOTATED SHEET
SHOWING DRAWING CHANGES

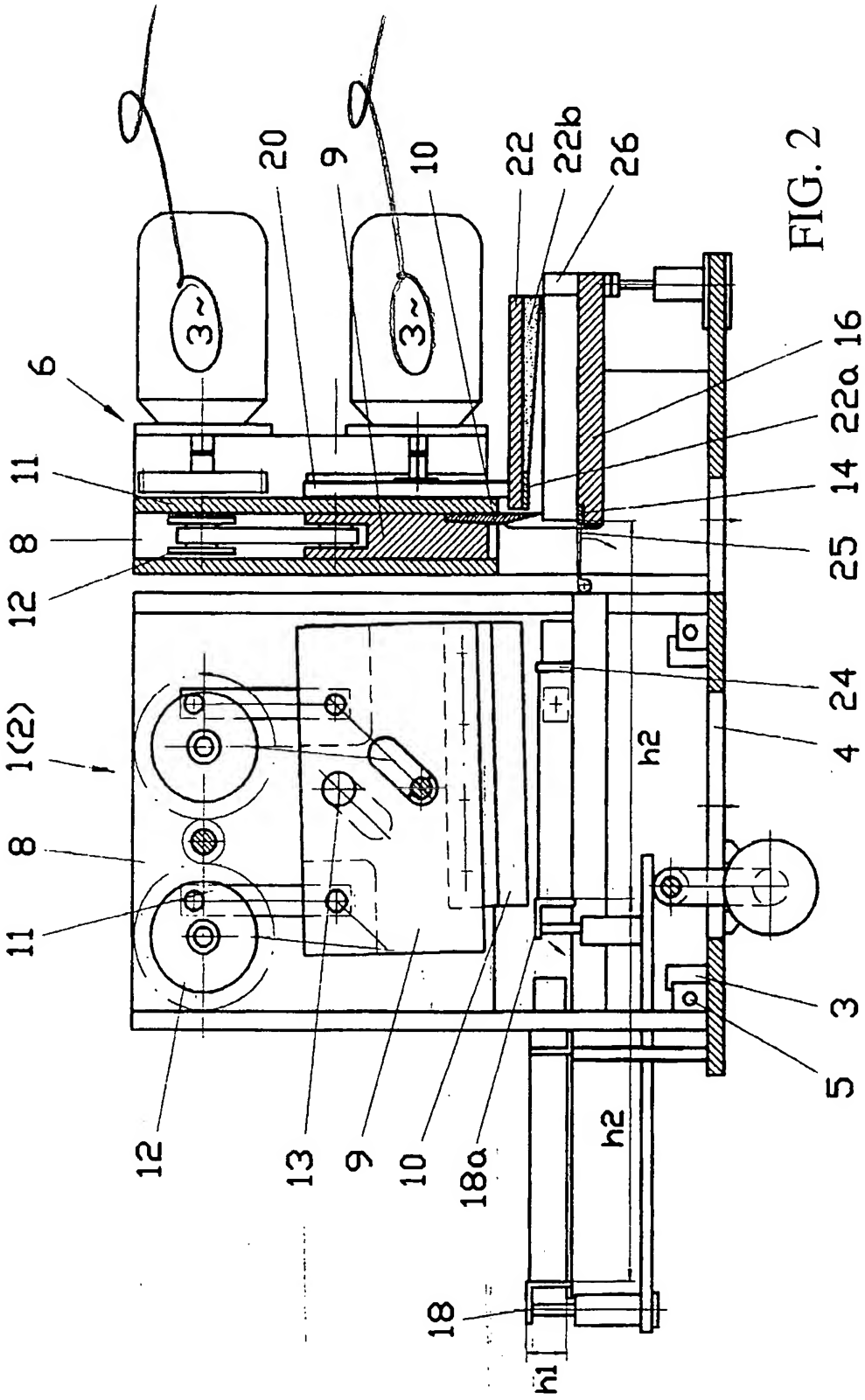


FIG. 2

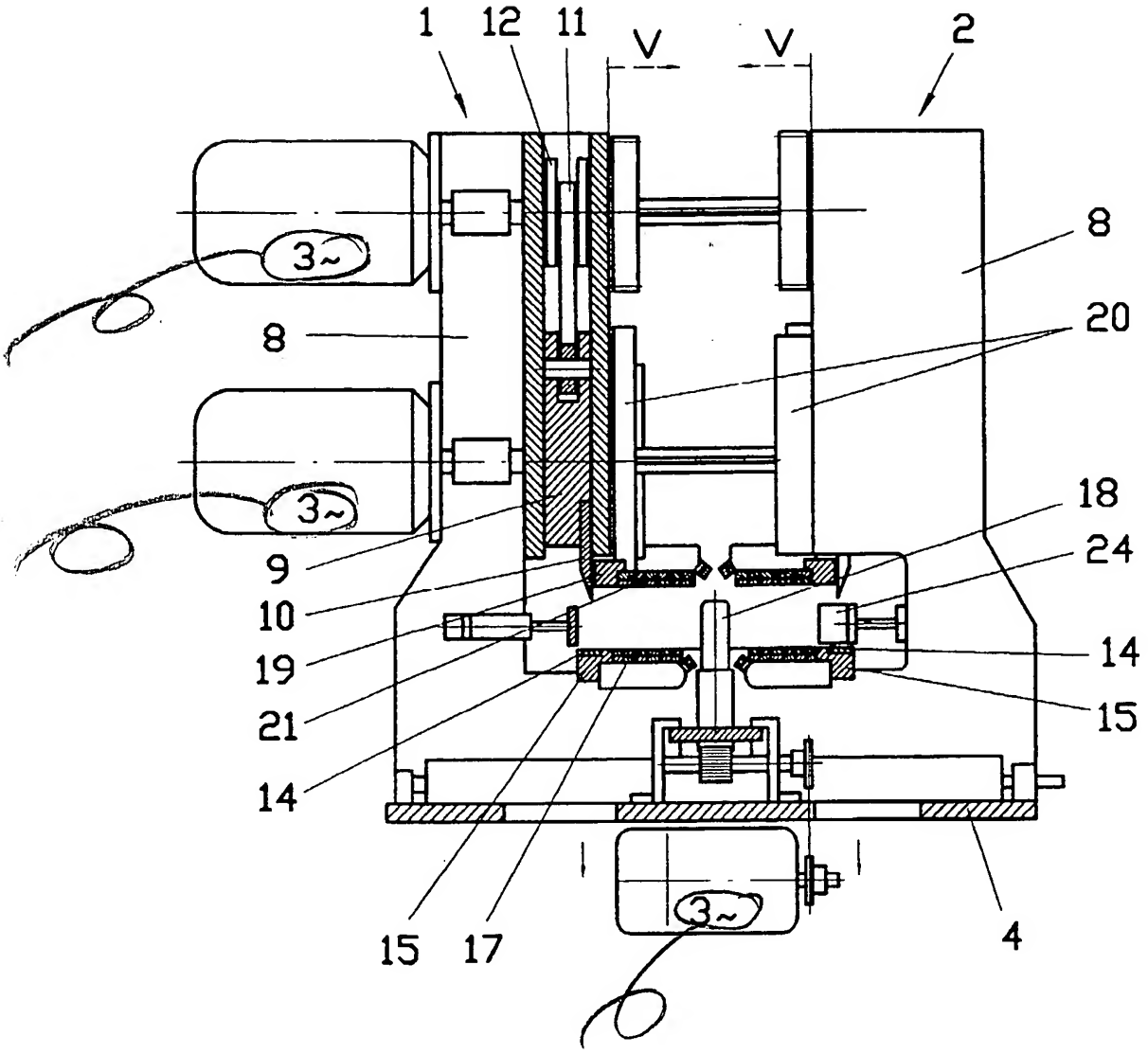
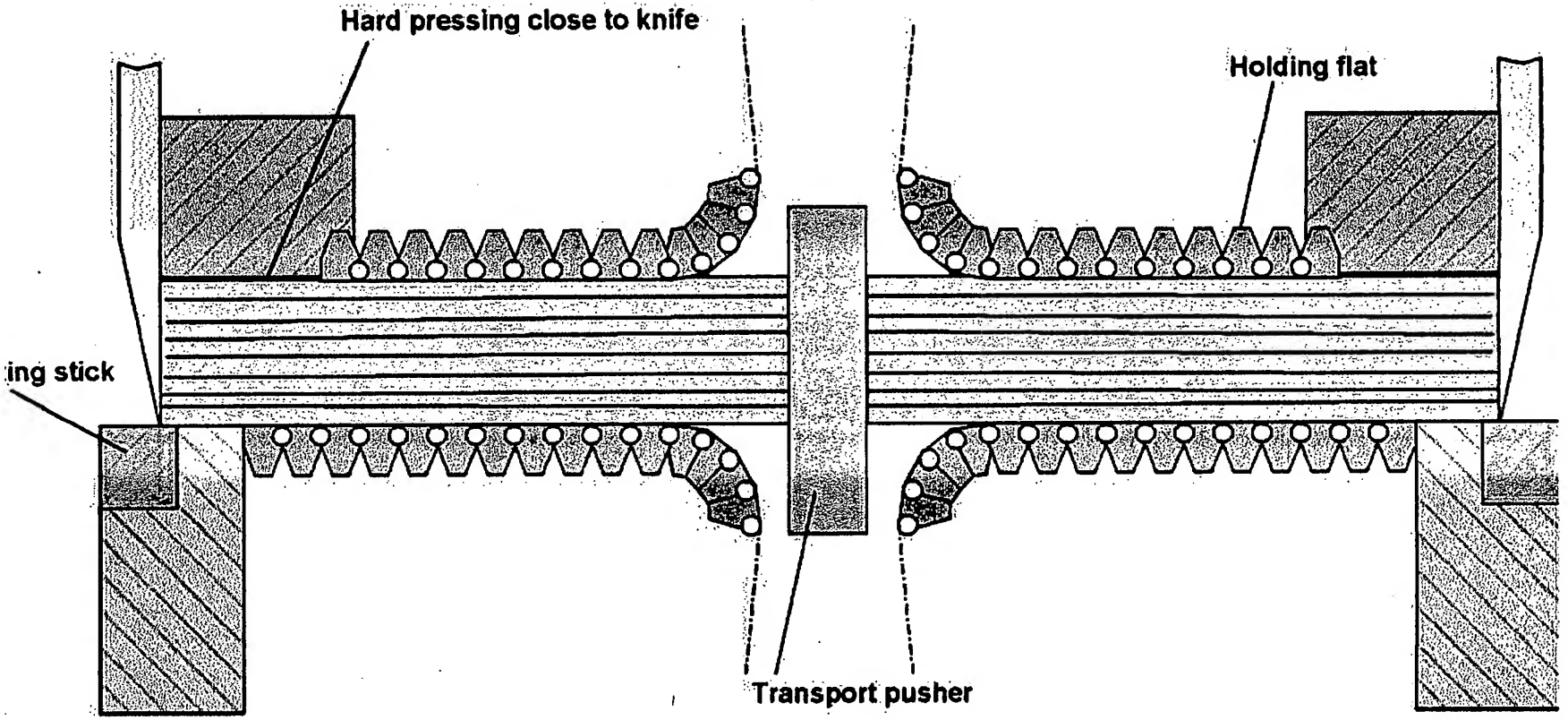
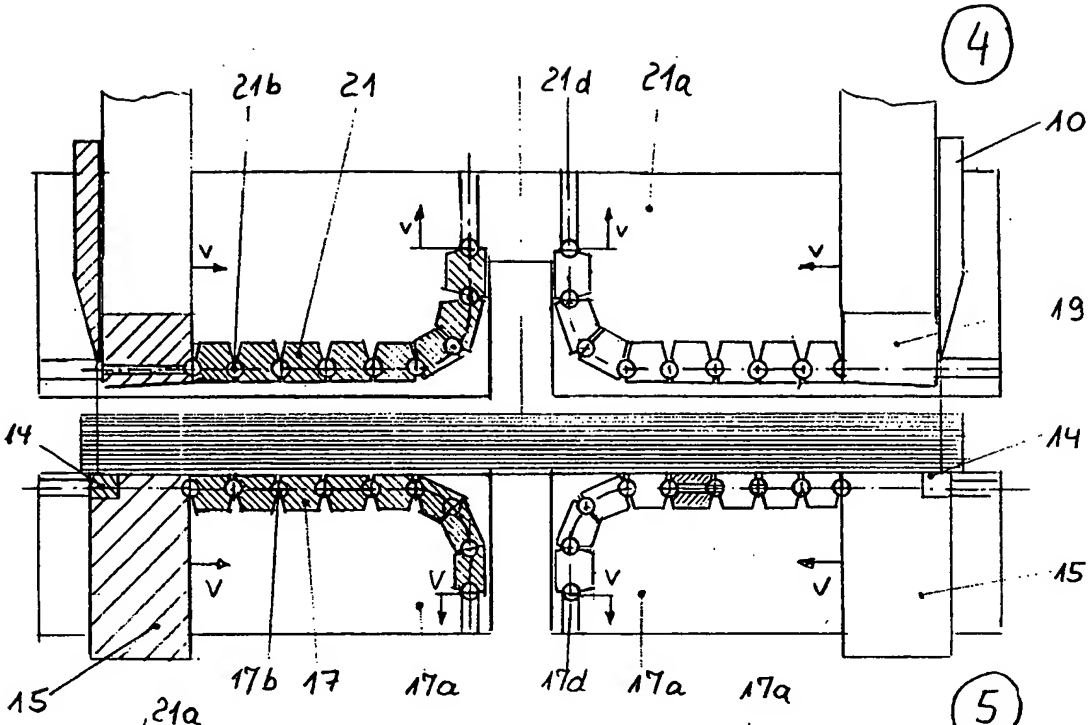


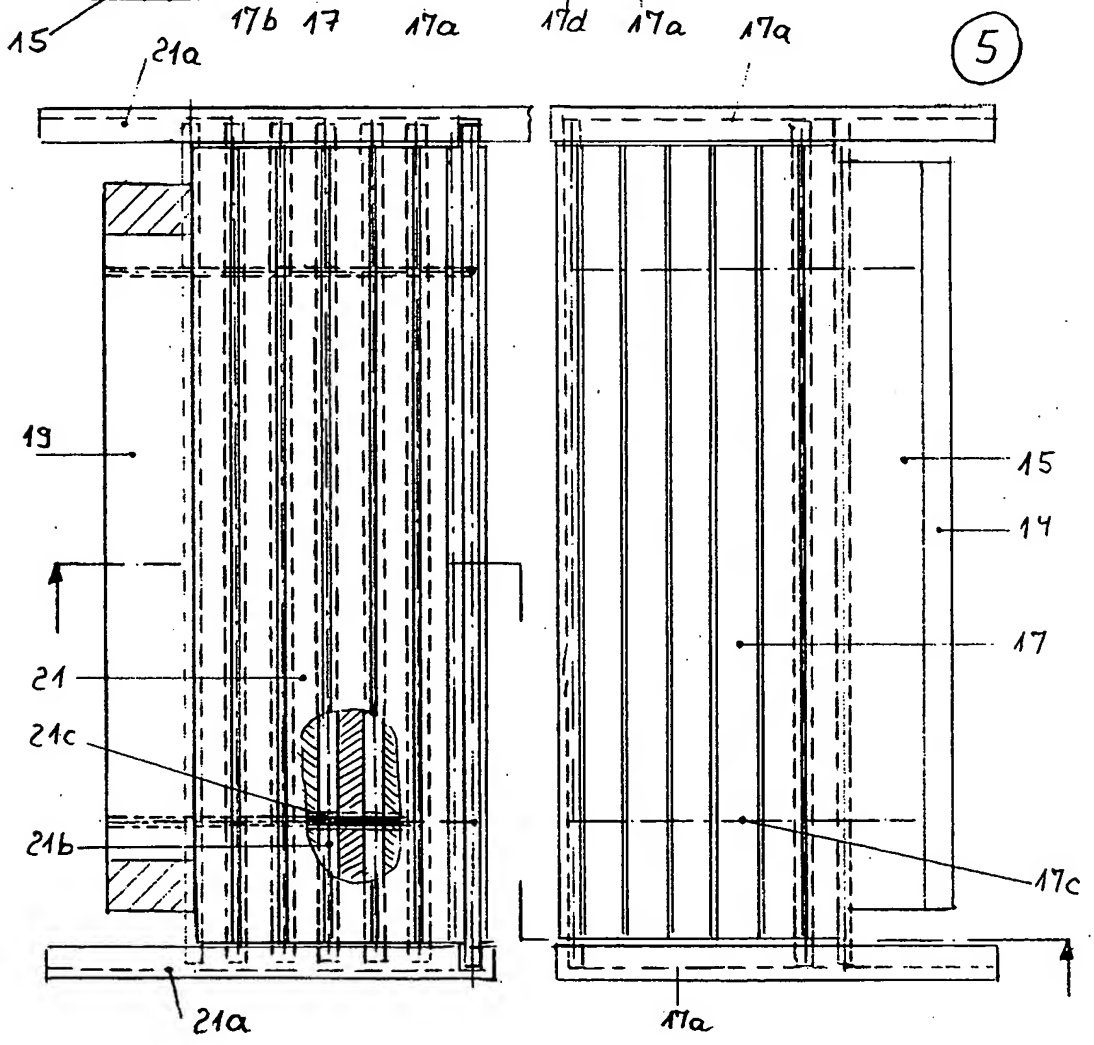
FIG. 3

SKETCH A



SKETCH B





SKETCH C